

Constantine Republican

VOLUME I.

CONSTANTINE, ST. JOSEPH CO. MICHIGAN, NOVEMBER 2, 1836.

NUMBER 18.

CONSTANTINE REPUBLICAN,

published by
HUNGER & COWDERY,

Every Wednesday Morning, at the stand formerly occupied by Maj. J. S. Ullman, corner of Canine and Water streets.

Terms—Two dollars per annum in advance, two dollars and fifty cents within the year, or three dollars at the expiration of the year.

Advertising at the usual rates.

FRUIT TREES FOR SALE.

BRADING APPLES, PEARS, PLUMS, Peaches, Cherries, Olives and Currants. I have 170 kinds of cultivated apples & of choice kinds. The most of my collections are from the Albany and Long Island Nurseries. I have cultivated trees from 1 to 5 years old, and several thousand seedling trees from 3 to 8 years old. Any person who wishes to get a very choice selection of fruit will do well to call and examine, as I think I can furnish them with any good kind as can be had in the country. Nearly all my cultivated trees are at my Nursery at Pine Lake, five and a half miles east of White Pigeon, on the Chicago road; also, a large quantity of seedling trees at the nursery at White Pigeon, on the Chicago road; which I will sell cheap if applied for this fall, before I remove them to my Nursery at Pine Lake.

If any person has doubts as to fruit trees doing well in this country let them come and see my Orchard, which is not outdone in any country of the same age. I have from five to six hundred fruit trees, in my orchard, the most of which have been set two years last spring, and were three years old when set; nearly all of these were cultivated at the nursery at White Pigeon. These trees have grown as vigorous and as fine as any I ever saw in any country, and it is so acknowledged by all who have seen them. I had fruit on some of these trees this year, viz: apples, plums, peaches, cherries, grapes and currants, and they produced fine fruit as the same kinds do in the state of New York.

The apples which were so famously extolled in the Constantine Republican of the 30 of August last, from the New Lowell Orchard, were from trees selected from the White Pigeon Nursery. I shall have grapes and currants cuttings this fall; also a few pounds of Raisins, Hops, &c.

Prices—Apple seedlings 8 cents; apple grafts 18 cents; pears 25 to 33 cents; plums 18 to 25 cents; cherries 25 cents; peaches 6 to 13 cents; grapes 25 cents, from 1 to 2 years old; currants from 50 to 75 cents a dozen.

The fall is allowed to be the best time to set trees.

White Pigeon, 19th Sept. 1836. 3a13

NEW BOOKS BY CANAL, at STEELE'S

Holland's Life of Van Buren, Malabrán's Geography, Parley's do, Church's Palmyra, Bitterman's Greek Grammar, Watts and select Hymns, Porter's Analysis, Donaghy's Lexington, 2d book of History, Testaments, Greek Testament, Playfair's Euclid, Adams' Arithmetic, Quarto Bible, Combs' Bible, Book, Allen's Key of Secret, Potts' Arithmetic, Tongue with a Large Lot of Miscellaneous Books, for sale wholesale and retail, at New York prices.

O. G. STEELE, 214 Main st.

Buffalo, June 20, 1836. 1y1

Farmers Look at This.

PATENT FANNING MILLS.—P. E. GROVER would inform the citizens of St. Joseph and adjoining counties, that he is now making at his shop, in Constantine, the best article of FANNING MILLS ever offered for sale in the Western country, of an improved patent, and warranted to do a first rate business. Persons wishing to purchase the above article are invited to call and examine them as he will have them constantly on hand.

P. E. GROVER.

Constantine, June 29, 1836. 1y1

MAIL & WINTER ARRANGEMENTS

MENTS OF STAGES, between Michigan City and White Pigeon via Laporte, Gratiot, Platteville, South Bend, Mishawaka, Elkhart, and Monticello, Thence a week leaving Michigan City and White Pigeon every Monday, Wednesday and Friday Mornings, and Mishawaka each way every Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday Mornings, through by day-light.

This line of conveyance has good enclosed carriages, so that the traveler will not be exposed to the inclement weather; having also, careful and experienced drivers and good teams. The Stage will arrive at White Pigeon in season to take the eastern stage for Detroit, and going west, arrives at South Bend in time to take the southern Stage for Logansport.

The disinterested traveler will only find a shorter route, but a better road than by Niles, and passing through a beautiful country.

For seats apply to Samuel Pratt, White Pigeon; H. Sanger and D. Dagroff; Elkhart; L. M. AL. Venger, Bristol; Samuel Fay and J. J. Kellogg, Mishawaka; George W. Park, Platteville; G. W. G. and Mr. B. B. Lapore; Laporte; Innant Hotel, Michigan City.

J. S. KELLOGG, Proprietor.

October 5, 1836. 3a14

CABINET MAKING

CHRISTIAN KUCH would respectfully inform the citizens of Constantine and its vicinity, that he still continues the CABINET MAKING business, in all its various branches. He would be happy to attend to all orders in his line, and begs leave to assure the public that his work shall be turned out in a manner inferior to none in Michigan, in point of elegance of style and durability.

BUREAUS, SECRETARIES, SIDEBOARDS, SOFAS, COUCHES, BOOK CASES, WARDROBE, PIER, CENTRE, CARD and COFFET TABLES.

LADIES' WORK TABLES AND STANDS, MUSIC STOOLS, &c. etc. made to order on short notice, and of as good materials as can be found in Michigan. His shop is on Canine street, two doors from the corner of Water and Canine streets.

Constantine, June 29, 1836.

JUST RECEIVED, at the Detroit

Bookstore, the following works: Allen's President, Winter in the West, Outrigger, Bush, full Irishman, the Tennessee, the Cavaliers of Virginia, Coleridge's Table Talk, Life of Samuel Dray, Mothers' Hints, &c. &c. June, 1836.

MEAT MARKET

at White Pigeon. We shall keep constantly on hand and for sale at each of the above named places, Fresh and select meat of the best quality. **SANBORN, LADD, & Co.** We will also pay the highest cash price for good beef cattle.

A FARM FOR SALE,

lying within one and a quarter miles of Constantine, on the Youngs Prairie road, leading from Constantine to Youngs Prairie. One hundred and twenty acres of the first rate plow land; thirty-five acres fenced, and improvements, a good log house and good water—also, forty acres of the first rate mowing meadow, and forty acres of heavy timber, whitewood, butternut and ash—also unimproved lands in the same neighborhood—also lands in what is called the Bare settlement, which I will sell cheap if applied for soon. For further particulars inquire of the subscriber living on said farm.

ELIAS TRUE.

Constantine, August 17, 1836. 4f7

CHEAP FARM

for sale, lying within three miles of Constantine, on the main road running from White Pigeon to Prairie Road containing two hundred acres, bounded on the west by the St. Joseph river, on the east by the main road; rising of forty acres fenced and tilled, plenty of good timber and water, a comfortable house. For further particulars inquire of the subscriber on the premises, or of Wm. S. Loomis at Niles.

WM. S. LOOMIS.

Constantine, Sept. 21. 191f



IMPROVED ROTARY COOK-

ING STOVES. On or about the 1st Sept. next, the subscriber will receive and offer for sale in this village, **THIRTY** Improved Rotary Cooking Stoves. That the Rotary Stove is better for purposes of cooking than any other yet invented, there is no doubt. The top revolves on rollers forward, by which means the flame strikes every pot, kettle and pan used on it, directly. By a new and peculiar construction, the oven is made as to bake bread, cake and pie, with uncommon uniformity; a result of no small consequence to all who eat of such articles. With the above excellencies, is combined a rare economy in fuel.

ALLEN GOODRIDGE.

Constantine, Aug. 2, 1836. 3f

JOHN F. POTTER,

FORWARDING and commission MERCHANT, St. Joseph, Berrien co, Michigan.

REPER TO—Pratt, Taylor & Co., Buffalo; Brewster, South Bend; Detroit; Hubbard & Co., Chicago; H. McCullum, N. York; Frost & Hughes, Albany.

STORAGE, FORWARD-

ING AND COMMISSION business, by **JOE J. BEESON,** Niles, Michigan. 3f

July 20, 1836.

ISAAC O. ADAMS,

Storage, Forwarding, and Commission Merchant, New-Buffalo, Michigan. 4f

New-Buffalo, July 27.

JUSTICE'S BLANKS.—HUNGER

& COWDERY have just printed an assortment of BLANKS, for Michigan and Indiana.

BLANK WARRANTS, SUMMONS, CAPTAS, VENIRES, SUBPENAS, EXECUTIONS, &c. &c.

and a new and splendid form of BLANK DEEDS, printed on script type, for Indiana and Michigan. Call and examine. Aug. 31, 1836.

ATTACHMENT.

NOTICE is hereby given, that John Bower has sued Edward Beatty, for an attachment against the goods and chattels, monies and effects of Edward Beatty, an absent debtor, and that the same will be tried before C. Yates, Esq., a Justice of the Peace, in and for St. Joseph County, at his office in White Pigeon, on Thursday, the 22d day of December next, at 1 o'clock, P. M.

JOHN BOWER.

White Pigeon, Sept. 22, 1836. 4e14

ATTACHMENT.

NOTICE is hereby given, that Thomas Greenaway has sued out an attachment against the goods and chattels, monies and effects of Edward Beatty, an absent debtor, and that the same will be tried before C. Yates, Esq., a Justice of the Peace, in and for St. Joseph County, at his office in White Pigeon, on Thursday, the 22d day of December next, at 1 o'clock, P. M.

THOMAS GREENAWAY.

White Pigeon, Sept. 22, 1836. 4e14

WANTED IMMEDIATELY.

Two or three apprentices to the Tailor business. Boys about 15 or 16 years of age would be preferred. None but those of steady habits need apply.

G. W. SCHNABEL.

Water Street, Constantine.

September 14, 1836. 11uf

LIBRARY OF ENTERTAINING

KNOWLEDGE—Just received at the Detroit Bookstore, and for sale by **L. L. MORSE, 83 Jeff. Av.** Detroit, June 30, 1836. 1y7

NOTICE.

All persons are forbid cutting any wood from our land, or drawing any way that is already cut, without calling at the store and letting their wants be known, when they will be accommodated on reasonable terms.

W. T. HOUSE & CO.

Constantine, Aug. 17, 1836.

NEW RELIGIOUS WORKS.

Received this week at the Michigan Bookstore, and Stationers' Hall, Gathered Fragments, by Rev. John Clark, author of Walk about Zion. Pastor's Testimony, &c. The Mourner's Book.

SNOW & FISK.

Detroit, August 31, 1836.

ADDRESS

OF THE STATE CONVENTION TO THE PEOPLE OF MICHIGAN.

The undersigned, in pursuance of a resolution adopted by the Convention of Delegates, recently assembled at Ann Arbor, for the purpose of taking into consideration the proposition of the Congress of the United States, as contained in the act of June 15th, 1836, relative to the admission of this State into the Union, take the liberty of addressing, in behalf of said Convention, their fellow-citizens upon this important subject. It will be their province to do so, in a spirit of frankness and candor, which, while it may fail to convince those who, upon this subject, differ with them in opinion, it is to be hoped will claim the consideration of all those who have sought, as their homes, the highly favored region embraced within the limits prescribed by the Constitution of this State. It is believed the people of Michigan, upon the great question of their territorial rights, have but one common interest; and it is a question equally involving the rights and the interests of generations yet unborn. No motives, then, of temporary expediency, of particular, sectional or personal interests, it is conceived, should so far predominate over the minds of our citizens, as to prompt them to shrink from the responsibility of contending for all that is at stake, and submitting to nothing which is manifestly wrong. The character, credit and standing of our new State, must ever depend upon the firmness, integrity and stability of its people; and any want of good faith, on their part, to each and every citizen of this commonwealth, by failing to maintain the rights of the state to sovereignty and to soil, by all constitutional means, would tend to destroy confidence in the permanency and integrity of our institutions, and would place us at once upon a footing infinitely beneath our sister states of this confederacy.

The convention of Michigan had but one plain, simple path pointed out for them to pursue; assembled under an act of congress, imposing upon the people of this state the performance of a condition, as the price of admission into the Union, at total variance with the provisions of the compact under which our constitution and state government had been formed, as the sovereign act of its own people, and an act of our state legislature, which sought at our hands the performance of the task of an indirect but virtual surrender of an integral part of our sovereignty, in open violation of our own fundamental law, and the popular voice of a great majority of the electors, expressed at the ballot box, forbidding that our infant fabric should be battered down, in the onset, at the shrine of expediency—they of necessity and of choice—as the friends of good order, of constitutional right, and as the representatives of the will of their constituents, with no authority, to alter, amend or change the constitution which the people have formed as basis of their government and their laws; were constrained to withhold the assent required, or sought to be obtained, by the legislation of congress and of the legislature, under which they had been convened. In so doing, they leave their acts, and the record of their names, to be judged by the present as well as future generations—they have endeavored to carry out, unswayed by fear and uninfluenced by favor, the will of the people; and if their measures shall tend in any degree to preserve our constitution from the attacks of arbitrary power from abroad, and the encroachments of inward foes, their highest ambition will have been gratified; and they will yet hope to witness the star-spangled banner of Michigan waving in undisturbed triumph over its entire borders.

We respectfully claim your attention, fellow-citizens, to a brief review of the history of our claims to the right of self-government upon a contingency already arrived and acknowledged by congress, to our southern and south-eastern boundaries, and to an examination of the power of congress to alter them, in consistency with the constitution of the United States; and also to the power of your convention to give their assent to a proposition involving a material alteration of our state constitution.

When the territory north-west of the river Ohio was ceded to the United States by the state of Virginia, the then proprietor, the justly celebrated ordinance of 1787 was enacted for its temporary government and providing at the same time for its future organization into distinct Republican States which are forever to form a part of this confederacy—from this document we may be here permitted to extract the following:

"And for extending the fundamental principles of civil and religious liberty; which form the basis whereon these republics, their laws and constitutions are erected; to fix and establish those principles as the basis of all laws, constitutions and governments, which forever hereafter shall be formed in said territory; to provide also for the establishment of states and permanent government, and for their admission to a share in the federal councils, on an equal footing with the original states, at as early a period as may be consistent with the general interests: It is hereby ordained, that the following articles shall be considered articles of compact between the original states and the people and states in the said territory, and forever remain unalterable unless by common consent."

The 5th article of the ordinance aforesaid, declares that "there shall be formed in the said territory not less than three or more than five states"—and after defining

the boundaries of three states on the north by the Canada line, adds: "Provided, however, and it is further understood and declared, that the boundaries of these three states shall be subject so far to be altered, that if congress shall hereafter find it expedient, they shall have authority to form one or two states in that part of the said territory which lies north of an east and west line drawn through the southerly bend or extreme of Lake Michigan. And whenever any of the said states shall have sixty thousand free inhabitants therein, such state shall be admitted by its delegates, into the Congress of the United States, on an equal footing with the original states, in all respects whatever, and shall be at liberty to form a permanent constitution and state government, provided the constitution and state government so to be formed, shall be republican, and in conformity to the principles contained in these articles."

So much, fellow-citizens, was left to the discretion of Congress—they might form the whole territory into three states; but if they found it expedient to form more than three, then the northern boundary of the three southern states were unalterably fixed and could not be changed or modified unless by common consent of all the parties interested—Congress have erected three states within the said territory, and have extended none of them to the Canada line—so that not only congress, but the states so formed, have tacitly consented that the provisions of the ordinance should be fully carried out, and that there should be formed one or two additional states on the north; and although two of the southern states, (Indiana and Illinois) in coming into the Union, were suffered to encroach beyond the line designated by the ordinance, and may, perhaps, never be molested, still their rights of sovereignty, in this particular, without the consent of the people north of said line, may be deemed as resting upon a very slender foundation—And we do most emphatically deny the power of congress under the constitution to alter or modify the said line without our consent, much less to make it a term of our admission into the Union, after having pronounced our constitution to be republican, and consistent with the ordinance and constitution of the United States. But to prove more fully that congress have long since declared, that a fourth state should be formed in the north-west territory we will here quote from the act of 11th of Jan. 1805, as follows:—"That from and after the thirtieth day of June next all that part of the Indiana territory which lies north of a line drawn east from the southerly bend or extreme of Lake Michigan until it intersects Lake Erie, and east of a line drawn from the said southerly bend through the middle of said lake to its northern extremity and thence due north to the northern boundary of the United States, shall for the purposes of temporary government, constitute a separate territory and be called Michigan; and the inhabitants thereof shall be entitled to, and enjoy all and singular, the rights, privileges and advantages, granted and secured to the people of the territory of the United States north-west of the river Ohio by the ordinance" (of 1787.)

It will be borne in mind that Ohio came into the Union, with her present boundary line, three years prior to the passage of the act; and that the southern and south-eastern boundary which we now claim is precisely the same with that permanently fixed by the said aforesaid act of 1805—And in this act congress did not reserve any power to annex the whole or any part of Michigan to Ohio; on the contrary, the faith of the nation was pledged to our citizens, the then inhabitants of the territory and those who might afterwards settle therein, that as soon as their number amounted to sixty thousand they should be received into the Union as one of the States, with no other conditions imposed upon them than those prescribed in the compact of 1787, and which they have ever been ready and anxious to comply with.

But as if to make sure more sure, congress by the whole course of their legislation for more than twenty-five years, with the exception of the act providing for the admission of Indiana into the Union, whenever they have referred to Michigan, either directly or implicitly, have but confirmed us in the possession of our original boundaries; numerous instances in proof of this position might be adduced, which would swell this address to an unreasonable length—we will confine ourselves to a single quotation. The act of congress of April 18th, 1818, providing for the admission of Illinois into the Union, declares—"That all that part of the territory of the United States, lying north of the state of Indiana, and which was included in the former Indiana territory, together with that part of the Illinois territory which is situated north of, and not included within the boundaries prescribed by this act, to the state thereby authorized to be formed, shall be, and hereby, is attached to, and made a part of the Michigan territory, from and after the formation of the said state, subject, nevertheless, to be hereafter disposed of by congress, according to the right reserved in the fifth article of the ordinance aforesaid, and the inhabitants therein shall be entitled to the same privileges and immunities, and subject to the same rules and regulations, in all respects, with the other citizens of the Michigan territory."

Here again we have an express recognition of our western boundary, as fixed by our own constitution in precise accordance with the act of 1805, and nothing in the act

of 1818 even remotely refers to any change in our southern boundary; and the question here very properly arises, did not congress in the clause which we have quoted virtually become a party to the eventual formation of the fifth state, in that part of the north-west territory lying west of Lake Michigan, subject only to the single reservation that said territory might be attached to one or more of the three southern states—a right which congress has never yet exercised, and probably never will, as it would be depriving the inhabitants there of one of the principal rights plainly indicated by the ordinance, that of self-government under a constitution of their own creation.

With regard, fellow-citizens, to the district of country proposed to be annexed to Michigan, lying west of Lake Michigan, and forming from its geographical position a part of the fifth state instead of the fourth, we will indulge a single remark. No assent which your convention could give would legally constitute it a part of our sovereignty—if congress have not in fact long since expended their power in the division of the two northern states, and have power to deprive the people of any portion of the state (in embryo) of Wisconsin of the right of living under a fundamental law of their own creation, which we are not prepared to admit, the jurisdiction of Michigan must rest (if at all) upon the extension of its laws over the district of country so annexed to our state. We doubt the power of congress or of the people of Michigan to force the constitution of this state upon any portion of the people of the N. W. Territory, residing beyond its boundaries, and who have never participated in its formation. Such a supposition is at variance with the clear intent and meaning of the ordinance of 1787, which distinctly provides for the formation of not less than three nor more than five states in the N. W. Territory, and secures to the people of the states so to be formed the right of forming for themselves permanent constitutions of government, with this single reservation that they shall be of a republican character.

We will here, fellow-citizens, briefly allude to the steps taken by yourselves, in accordance with the compact and law of 1805, in the formation of the fabric which now forms the basis of your government, and in the inviolate maintenance of which much of your future happiness and prosperity must depend. After repeated applications to the congress of the United States for the passage of a special act authorizing the call of a convention; after your population had increased to double the number possessed by either of the three southern states on entering this Union; and after the representatives of certain of those states had, with a spirit of liberality which can never be forgotten, successfully resisted your application: your local legislature, whose acts and doings during our existence as a Territory, were subject to supervision and repeal by Congress, after first providing for the taking of a census of our inhabitants, (see act of 6th Sept. 1834,) proceeded to the call of a convention of delegates with a view to the formation of a permanent constitution, (see act of Jan. 26, 1835.) Congress, by failing to exercise the power of repealing these very acts, in force or actually passed during the three distinct sessions of that body, and over which they have for a time an undisputed control, have come themselves an acquiescing party to all the various preliminaries incident to the formation of our government; hence they have now no power to alter or abridge the rights of the people under it. And after acknowledging our constitution, which was suffered to sleep like a stray bantling for many months upon their tables, to be republican in its character, are we not, as well by our own acts of sovereignty as by the full and only action which it is possible for congress to take in the premises a STATE or THE UNION, presenting the anomaly of an independent sovereignty deprived, by the arbitrary exercise of powers no where delegated, of a representation in the National Councils?

It is believed no citizen of the United States who has minutely and impartially examined the ordinance of '87 and the subsequent action of congress can arrive at any other result than that Michigan has an undisputed right to her representative share in the halls of congress without mutilation or dismemberment; and we appeal to you, fellow-citizens, and confidently ask you, was it not with this expectation, that you left your native homes and voluntarily endured the privations and hardships incident to forming settlements in this state? Was it not with this hope that you cheerfully paid your hard earned money into the treasury of the United States for a home for yourselves and your children, and by your thriving industry, converted much of it from a howling wilderness into bountiful fields? Your own experience or the history of congress did not warrant you to doubt or suspect their faith—nor could you believe that in your case they would at once depart from their former rules of action and adopt one founded on favoritism, expediency and injustice.

And shall our long and fondly cherished hopes be disappointed? Must Michigan participate in the national councils (if at all) mutilated, humbled and degraded? Must she sell a portion of her brethren "like Joseph into Egypt," as the price of our admission? No! not if we are true to ourselves. Congress cannot deprive us of a representation, nor can they bestow upon Ohio any part of our domain without our consent, consistent with the constitution and

ordinance of 1787—hence it is, that our assent has been asked to the proposed modifications of our state constitution.

It was very justly remarked by Mr. Hamer, of Ohio, in the house of representatives in June last, that "No one has been so wild yet, as to contend that congress can alter the lines of one of the states of this Union. The territorial jurisdiction of each state is as far removed from the control of congress, as the regulation of her state revenue, and the modifications of her poor laws. If congress could at pleasure dismember a state; could cut off a few counties from one and add them to another; then our liberties would indeed be held by a frail tenure." Michigan then having formed her government, as the sovereign act of its own people, with the express sanction of congress, and having presented herself in the attitude of a STATE for admission into the Union; we are bound to suppose that congress by the act of June 15th, 1836, which accepts unconditionally our constitution, intend the change of boundaries there, in proposed, rather as a proposition to us than as an absolute transfer of a portion of our territory, one of the best harbors on the lake, and our jurisdiction over the waters of Lake Erie, to a neighboring state; but, fellow-citizens, in either event, congress by requiring our assent, have virtually recognized us as a party in this case. And even if all that they proposed to bestow upon Ohio were of small moment or of trifling consequence—and if our convention fellow-citizens, had been clothed with ample powers so to alter your constitution as to render it conformable to the boundaries proposed to us as terms of our admission into the Union; we could not assent while this menace was suspended over us. But we had not that power—we could not assent without a violation of our constitution, and joining with congress in at least an attack upon that of the United States.

With regard, fellow-citizens, to the separate act for the establishment of the northern boundary of Ohio, it requires but a passing notice; it is in itself void and unconstitutional—it is at variance with the ordinance of 1787; it conflicts with the constitution of this state previously formed and accepted by congress; and is at direct variance with various prominent clauses in the constitution of the United States, in one of which it is declared—"nothing in this constitution shall be so construed as to prejudice any claims of the United States, or of any particular state"—hence if Michigan ever had a just claim to the disputed territory she has still, and no law of congress can affect that claim one single iota.

It has been urged by the advocates of the claims of Ohio, that the ordinance of 1787 was superseded by the adoption of the constitution of the United States, and in support of this allegation confidently quote the last clause of the third section of the fourth article of the constitution as follows:—"Congress shall have power to dispose of, and make all needful regulations respecting the territory or other property belonging to the United States." Reference is here unquestionably had alone to the power of congress over the public lands; but admitting for argument's sake that it is intended to apply to the Territories of the United States, still we insist that all grants of power are to be strictly construed. The power of congress is limited even over the District of Columbia by the terms of cession from Virginia and Maryland. In every spot of territory which congress have acquired throughout the United States for fortifications or other purposes, the grants are limited, and the power of congress over them specially defined, beyond which they cannot go. So also in the purchase of Louisiana and Florida the power of congress was limited by the treaties with France and Spain, and whenever they go beyond those limits they palpably violate a supreme law of the land—And is the Territory N. W. of the River Ohio a solitary exception to this well established rule? No! whenever congress rudely violates the compact of '87, they forfeit their own jurisdiction, and the territory either reverts to the original grantors, or becomes the inheritance of its own inhabitants. But the prudent sages who formed our constitution, with that vigilance and care which marked all their proceedings, have cautiously guarded this avenue to the unwarrantable extension of the power of congress. The first clause of the sixth article is as follows:

"All debts contracted and engagements entered into before the adoption of this constitution shall be as valid against the United States under this constitution as under the confederation." Congress then fill precisely the same place under the constitution which they did under the confederacy, their powers on this subject are neither diminished nor enlarged, and in neither case had they any power at all except what they derived from the articles of compact.

If the power of congress over Michigan was supreme and without limitation, then indeed our slavery and degradation would be as complete as that of the serfs of the autocrat of all the Russias, and if his Majesty the King of Great Britain would oust Ohio, there would be nothing to prevent a transfer of a part of the whole of Michigan to him and we henceforth become a component part of Upper Canada. It might be the sovereign will of Congress, and they might think it expedient.

Our principal, and we may say only, controversy, fellow citizens, is confined to the neighboring state of Ohio; and in the discussions which we shall here make, we do